

***Walter W. Lerch***

*15220 Golden Rain Drive, Chesterfield, Missouri, 63017*

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January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

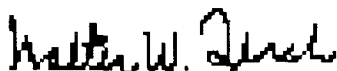
I am writing to voice my support to an end to the Microsoft antitrust case. The proposed settlement between Microsoft and the Justice Department reflects a fair balancing of the interests and should be approved and implemented.

If given the opportunity, I am sure Microsoft's opponents will nickel and dime this agreement to death. This should tell you that they are not after fairness, but are truly after a permanently crippled Microsoft. This snow job on Microsoft by competitors is most certainly not in the public interest any more than any alleged antitrust violations.

Microsoft has responded to the main complaint against it by agreeing that non-Microsoft software programs can be installed in the Windows operating system. They do this both by changing their licensing scheme and their program as a whole. I do not see the need to return to court when the main objective can be accomplished short of further litigation.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



Walter W. Lerch